

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An output time management apparatus comprising:

an output time management means for acquiring a specific object data, a time management program for controlling an output of said specific object data, and an upper limit time for which the output of said object data is permitted, from data stored in a removable storing medium.

a time counter for measuring an accumulation time representing the time elapsed from the start of outputting the specific object data from the output time management apparatus,

a comparator for comparing a ~~predetermined~~ said upper limit time for ~~which the output of said specific object data is permitted~~ and said accumulation time for said object data measured by said time counter, and

a controller for ~~controlling the output of said object data according to a program,~~ executing said time management program acquired by said output time management means and outputting said specific object data based on said time management program, and after the comparison by said comparator, suspending the output of said specific object data when it is found that said accumulation time reaches said upper limit time.

~~wherein the output time management apparatus acquires some information as an output time management program and the object data from a removable storage medium which information has been stored in, and has said controller execute the output time management program and acquired from the removable storage medium thereby control the output of said object data on the basis of the comparison results by said comparator.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The output time management apparatus of claim 1 wherein said output ~~means~~ of said specific object data is ~~display means~~ for displaying said specific object data.

3. (Currently Amended) The output time management apparatus of claim 1 wherein said output ~~means~~ of said specific object data is ~~sound output~~ for outputting said specific object data by sound.

4. (Withdrawn) The output time management apparatus of claim 1 wherein when said accumulation time measured by said time counter reaches said upper limit time, said controller erases said object data.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Withdrawn) The output time management apparatus of claim 5 wherein said object data is data to which can be added writing and,

the output time management apparatus further comprises storage means for storing said object data when said accumulation time measured by said time counter reaches said upper limit time.

7. (Withdrawn) The output time management apparatus of claim 6 wherein said object data is which is sent via network and,

the output time management apparatus further comprises receiving means for receiving said object data, and

sending means for sending said object data stored by storage means to a distribution source.

8. (Withdrawn) The output time management apparatus of claim 1 wherein said object data is data sent via network,

the output time management apparatus comprises receiving means for receiving said object data and sending means for sending said object data to a distribution source, and

wherein when said accumulation time measured by said time counter reaches said upper limit time, said controller suspends the output of said object data by said output means and said sending means sends said object data to the distribution source.

9. (Original) The output time management apparatus of claim 1 which further comprises a timer to count time, and

wherein said time counter measures said accumulation time utilizing the time counted by said timer.

10. (Previously Presented) The output time management apparatus of claim 1 which further comprises time information acquisition means for acquiring time information from an outside apparatus connected to the output time management apparatus and having the time information, and

wherein said time counter measures said accumulation time by utilizing the time information acquired by said time information acquisition means.

11. (Withdrawn) The output time management apparatus of claim 1 wherein said upper limit time information is embedded in said object data-

12. (Withdrawn) The output time management apparatus of claim 11 wherein said upper limit time information is embedded in said object data by digital watermark method.

13. (Withdrawn) The output time management apparatus of claim 1 which further comprises receiving means for receiving a information to erase or change said upper limit time via network, and

wherein said controller controls the output of said object data by utilizing the information to erase or change said upper limit time received by said receiving means.

14. (Current Amended) An output time management system comprising:
a data sending apparatus for sending data via a network,
a data receiving apparatus for receiving said data sent from said data sending apparatus,
an output time management means for acquiring a specific object data, a time management program for controlling an output of said specific object data, and an upper limit time for which the output of said object data is permitted, from said data received by said data receiving apparatus,

an output apparatus for outputting said specific object data based on said data received by said data receiving apparatus,

a time counting apparatus for measuring an accumulation time representing the time elapsed from start of outputting said specific object data by said output apparatus,

a comparison apparatus for comparing a ~~predetermined~~ said upper limit time for ~~which the output of said~~ specific object data is permitted and said accumulation time for said specific object data measured by said time counting apparatus, and

a control apparatus for ~~controlling the output of said object data on the basis of the comparison results by said comparison apparatus,~~ executing said time management program acquired by said output time management means and outputting said specific object data based on said time management program, and after the comparison by said comparator, suspending the output of said specific object data when it is found that said accumulation time reaches said upper limit time.

~~wherein the control apparatus acquires an output time management program and the object data from the data sending apparatus, and controls the output of the object data by executing the output time management program.~~

15. (Currently Amended) An output time management system comprising:

a storing apparatus for storing data on a storing medium,

a reading apparatus for reading ~~object data and an output time management program~~ stored by said storing apparatus from said storing medium,

an output time management means for acquiring a specific object data, a time management program for controlling an output of said specific object data, and an upper limit time for which the output of said specific object data is permitted, from said data read by said reading apparatus,

an output apparatus for ~~performing an output based on processed data~~ outputting said specific object data based on said data read by said reading apparatus,

a time counting apparatus for measuring an accumulation time representing the time elapsed from start of outputting said specific object data by said output apparatus,

a comparison apparatus for comparing a ~~predetermined~~ said upper limit time for ~~which the output of said~~ specific object data is ~~permitted~~ and said accumulation time for said specific object data measured by said time counting apparatus, and

a control apparatus for ~~controlling the output of said object data on the basis of a comparison result by said comparison apparatus,~~ executing said time management program acquired by said output time management means and outputting said specific object data based

on said time management program, and after the comparison by said comparator, suspending the output of said specific object data when it is found that said accumulation time reaches said upper limit time.

~~wherein the control apparatus acquired the output time management program and the object data by the reading apparatus, and controls the output of said object data by executing the output time management program.~~

16. (Currently Amended) An output time management method comprising:

an output time management step for acquiring a specific object data, a time management program for controlling an output of said specific object data, and an upper limit time for which the output of said specific object data is permitted, from data stored in a removal storing medium.

a time counting step for measuring an accumulation time representing the time elapsed from start of outputting said specific object data by the output time management method step,

a comparing step for comparing a predetermined said upper limit time for which the output of said specific object data is permitted and said accumulation time for said specific object data measured in said time counting step, and

a controlling step for ~~controlling the output of said object data according to a program,~~ for executing said time management program acquired in said time management step and outputting said specific object data based on said time management program, and after the comparing step, suspending the output of said specific object data when it is found that said accumulation time reaches said upper limit time.

~~wherein said controlling step comprises acquiring some information as an output time management program and the object data from a removable storing medium which information has been stored in, and having said controller execute the output time management program acquired from the removable storing medium thereby control the output of said object data.~~

17. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storing medium for storing a program which makes a computer operate as an output time management apparatus, ~~the apparatus~~ comprising:

an output time management step for acquiring a specific object data, a time management program for controlling an output of said of said specific object data, and an upper limit time for

which the output of said specific object data is permitted, from data stored in a removal storing medium,

a ~~time counter~~ counting step for measuring an accumulation time representing the time elapsed from the start of outputting said specific object data by the program said output time management step,

a ~~comparator~~ comparing step for comparing a ~~predetermined~~ said upper limit time for which the output of said specific object data is permitted and said accumulation time for said specific object data measured by said time counter in said time counting step, and

a ~~controller~~ comparing step for ~~controlling the output of said object data according to the program,~~ for executing said time management program acquired in said time management step and outputting said specific object data based on said time management program, and after the comparing step, suspending the output of said specific object data when it is found that said accumulation time reaches said upper limit time.

~~wherein the output management apparatus acquired some information as an output time management program and the object data from a removable storage medium which information has been stored in, and has said controller execute the output time management program acquired from the removable storage medium thereby control the output of said object data.~~